

Attorney Docket No. 65856-0069

PATENT

AMMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

On page 13, prior to line 5, please add the following:

What is claimed is:

Claims 1 – 27 (Cancelled).

Please add new claims 28 – 61 as follows:

28. (New) A shift lever mechanism comprising:
a housing;
a lever having a longitudinal axis, said lever being at least partially disposed within said housing;
a pivoting member in operational communication with said lever being adapted to facilitate pivoting of said lever into a plurality positions; and
a lever position indication member indicating a disposal of said lever in at least one said positions, said lever position indication member being actuated by said pivoting member.
29. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 28, wherein said lever position indication member includes a transducer member and an actuation member.
30. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 28, wherein said transducer member includes a switch.
31. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 30, wherein said switch includes a potentiometer.
32. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 29, wherein said transducer member includes an air valve.

*Attorney Docket No. 65856-0069**PATENT*

33. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 29, wherein said actuation member includes a contact member, said contact member being in operational communication with a receiver member of said pivoting member.
34. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 33, wherein said contact member is disposed on said transducer member and said receiver member is disposed on said pivoting member.
35. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 29, wherein said transducer member is disposed on said housing.
36. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 29, wherein said transducer member is disposed along an axis extending radially outwards relative to a longitudinal axis of said housing.
37. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 36, wherein said transducer member is disposed generally perpendicular relative to said longitudinal axis of said housing.
38. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 29, wherein at least part of said transducer member is displaceable relative to at least part of said pivoting member.
39. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 33, wherein said contact member is displaceable relative to said receiver member.
40. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 33, wherein said contact member is displaceable relative to said receiver member along an axis extending radially outwards relative to said pivoting member.

*Attorney Docket No. 65856-0069**PATENT*

41. (New) A shift lever mechanism comprising:
a housing;
a lever having a longitudinal axis, said lever being at least partially disposed within said housing;
a pivoting member in operational communication with said lever being adapted to facilitate pivoting of said lever into a plurality positions; and
a resilient member providing resistance to displacement of said lever in at least one of said positions.
42. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 41, wherein said resilient member includes a detent.
43. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 42, wherein said detent is disposed on said pivoting member.
44. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 41, wherein said resilient member is disposed on said housing.
45. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 41, wherein said resilient member is disposed generally along an axis extending radially outwardly from said pivoting member.
46. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 42, wherein said resilient member is displaceable relative to said detent.
47. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 41, wherein said pivoting member includes a spherical element.
48. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 47, wherein said spherical element is disposed in a retaining cup and is operable to pivotally move therein.
49. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 48, wherein at least one of said spherical element and said retaining cup is formed from a plastic material.

*Attorney Docket No. 65856-0069***PATENT**

50. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 48, wherein at least one of said spherical element and said retaining cup is formed from a metallic material.
51. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 47, wherein said spherical element is fixed to said lever thereby forming a pivot point on said lever.
52. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 47, wherein said spherical element is fixed on said lever by a retaining pin.
53. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 47, wherein said spherical element forms an integral part of said lever thereby forming a pivot point on said lever.
54. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 47, wherein said lever extends through said spherical element to form an arrangement generally coaxial therewith.
55. (New) A shift lever mechanism comprising:
a housing having a housing longitudinal axis;
a lever having a first end and a second end defining a lever longitudinal axis, said lever being at least partially disposed within said housing;
a pivoting member in operational communication with said lever being adapted to facilitate pivoting of said lever into a plurality predetermined positions; and
a lever position indication member in selective operational communication with said lever, said lever position indication member indicating a disposal of said lever in at least one of said predetermined positions, said lever position indication member being actuated by said pivoting member.
56. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 55, wherein said pivoting member is attached to said lever.
57. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 55, wherein said pivoting member is disposed in a retaining cup.
58. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 57, wherein said pivoting member is in operational communication with said retaining cup.

Attorney Docket No. 65856-0069

PATENT

- 59. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 57, wherein said retaining cup is disposed in said housing.
- 60. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 55, wherein a resilient member provides resistance to displacement of said lever in at least one of said predetermined positions.
- 61. (New) The shift lever mechanism of claim 60, wherein said lever position indication member and said resilient member are disposed on said pivoting member.